

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3665
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002
DISAPPEARANCE OF PILOTS
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of pilots of Air Force have disappeared while on training flights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have made any efforts to inquire into the said incidents; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): In the current financial year, two pilots, namely Squadron Leader TJA Khan and Flying Officer D. Dahiya are missing after the accident of MiG-21 aircraft in Tezpur, Assam on 20th April, 2002. They are presumed to be dead.

(c) & (d): A Court of Inquiry has been instituted to probe the accident. Since the crash site could not be located, the exact cause of the accident is yet to be established.